

Attempt To "Fast Track" CUP Bill Through House Fails

The Central Utah Project funding bill that would provide \$983 million to complete the project, including Jordanelle Dam, was attached to an act that would have provided drought assistance to Californians, but failed to get the required two thirds vote in the U.S. Senate Tuesday.

Kenley Brunsdale, who has been hired by the Wasatch County Commission and the County Attorney to protect the county's interests as the CUP bill goes through the legislative process, said the combined bill received only 250 of the 280 votes it needed in order to pass. He said it was added to the Senate's suspension calendar on

Monday, which meant it would require a two thirds vote to pass rather than the simple majority required to pass legislation on the regular calendar.

The House of Representatives passed the CUP bill last Spring, with the Orton Amendment in tact, assuring Wasatch County would not be "de-watered", and which still is part of the package. The bill also transfers responsibility for completing the CUP from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to the Central Utah Water Conservancy District (CUWCD).

Con Christiansen, CUWCD manager, told the district board last Wednesday that he didn't expect the

bill to be voted on by the Senate until after the first of the year.

Brunsdale said Sen. John Seymour (R-Calif.) wrote the Bureau of Reclamation Drought Assistance Act, an important priority for California farmers, and it was passed by the Senate, but has been sitting for months in the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, chaired by George Miller (D-Calif.). He said Miller's staff worked with Rep. Wayne Owens' staff to attach the CUP bill as a rider to the Drought Assistance Act. That put those who support Seymour's legislation in the position of having to pass the CUP bill, which includes Bureau of

of all, it would not have been possible without the great help of the Heber City and the Wasatch County. I had the courage and put the initial... finally consuming. Great... by the... of... county, and equal assistance by Heber Light and Power with its employees. Many contractors assisted with their equipment and operators, and without cost, to help the project succeed. More than two hundred people and organizations have given money, time, and professional expertise from Utah, Salt Lake, Summit, and Wasatch Counties, without whose help, the project would have failed.

A personal word of appreciation should go to Fran Anderson who had the time and desire to keep all the pieces put into their proper place. I have found from personal experience that community projects are not the work of a few people, as the writer of the above Editorial suggests, but that they happen because of the

face to the voters of this county and represents an impertinence by the Association that we, as taxpayers and parents of school children, should not tolerate.

The Wasatch Education Association received a five percent cost of living increase this year, one of the highest in the state. According to Kelly Matthews, chief economist for First Security Corporation, inflation last year was about 5 percent in Utah.

The Wasatch Education Association is trying to push a "master contract", which would strip away local decision-making from our elected school board. This is very dangerous and all taxpayers should be concerned. Teachers have the same opportunity as all of us to lobby and urge that our pet projects be enacted. Childish no-confidence votes are passe and highly inflammatory and should not be tolerated by the taxpayers of this county.

Alpine and other school districts received a 1 percent pay raise. If the Wasatch Education Association continues in their vein. I know of

ings and are the victim of a late night whistle at close range, you probably, as I, have warm memories about the Creeper.

But!!! The Heber Creeper, if it is to operate, should be a private, non-governmental operation. There is ample evidence to show that government-operated entities don't run efficiently and, in fact, become burdens to the taxpayers of the area. That reminds me that the former article in *The Wave* stated that the Creeper could be run like the "very similar government owned Heber Power and Light". There is nothing similar between the two and it is unreasonable to compare them. Heber Power is a public utility, a monopoly, which most residents of the area must subscribe to if they need electrical power. The Creeper, on the other hand, is only a monopoly in the sense that it's the only train in the valley and the only way to take more than two hours to get to Vivian Park. I would assume that very few people in the valley have spent money to ride the Creeper more than once.

CUP...

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In any case, he said he expects the CUP bill to be out of committee this week and ready to go to floor of the Senate, but didn't say when that would be. He asks "there are some other 'fast bill' that can be taken to get through Congress expeditiously. Art Kingdom, Owens' press secretary, said the congressman has no new or alternate plan at this time other than to keep pushing the

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mainly with groceries for a holiday meal. The Wasatch County Search and Rescue will help to deliver those food boxes. Be a Santa's helper!



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